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Although on account of these structural blemishes the work will hardly take rank as a masterpiece, the book, as a whole, leaves a very favorable impression. Historical material abounds and the complicated tripartite relations which have existed in the past between Europe, Latin-America and the United States are unraveled at length and examined with just valuation of the conflicting rights of the parties concerned. "The specious present" is always most difficult to gauge. Nevertheless the author has made a brilliant analysis of world conditions as they exist today and the causes immediately underlying them. And Professor Hart's observations concerning the future ought to prove most valuable and helpful to any person inclined to speculate about the shadowy and threatening period of readjustment of international relations which seems to be looming up at the close of the present European war.

Thomas A. Larremore.

THE MODERN LAW OF EVIDENCE. By CHARLES FREDERIC CHAMBERLAYNE. Volume V. *Media of Proof*, edited by HOWARD C. JOYCE. Albany: MATTHEW, BENDER & Co. 1916. pp. xvi, 4621-5836.

This volume, which is the second to be published after Mr. Chamberlayne's untimely death, completes his treatise on the Modern Law of Evidence. The first four volumes of the work, two of which were published in 1911, and two in 1913, are already familiar to the profession. The fifth volume, under the general heading, *Media of Proof*, includes many of the most important branches generally treated in a work on evidence. It treats of writings and documents; of the parol and the best evidence rules; of evidence by perception, "having reference to those facts of which the court requires knowledge by the exercise of its own perceptive faculties"; and lastly, of witnesses, their attendance, incompetency, examination, and impeachment, with a separate chapter on privileged communications. A table of cases for the entire work is particularly welcome, and together with an alphabetical index with cross references to the general index in volume four, does much to render the work more available. Altogether, the author has covered the field in a most comprehensive and scholarly manner. The unwieldiness of the work for ready reference, due to the unusual method of treatment and arrangement, and to the unfamiliar nomenclature employed, disappears to a large extent with use, and the searcher, once he finds the treatment of his point, is sure to be rewarded by an adequate discussion and numerous citations to cases.

BLACKSTONE'S COMMENTARIES. Edited by WILLIAM CAREY JONES. 2 Vols. San Francisco: BANCROFT-WHITNEY Co. 1915. pp. cciv, 2770.

The text of the Commentaries used in this edition is that of Hammond's Edition, 1890, which in turn was taken from the eighth edition of the Commentaries published by the Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1788, and is complete. The most valuable of Hammond's notes have been retained, and in addition to these, are notes by the editor and others intended to show the more important modifications of the common law and thus give the work present and real value as a legal treatise. There have also been incorporated extracts from such writers as Pollock, Maitland, Vinogradoff, Langdell, Burdick and other recognized authorities on the theory and practice of the law. At the end of

Book III, is a supplementary chapter on Conflict of Laws. The addition of such a treatise on a branch of the law which has developed since the time of the publication of the Commentaries is only one example of the editor's effort to bring Blackstone's work down to date as a reference work and treatise on the law. This aim has been carried out, also, in the arrangement of the text. While the original arrangement has been retained, the old paging being indicated in the margins, the text has been divided into sections, in general following Blackstone's paragraphs, with section heads in black-face type. In short the whole scheme of the work admirably effects the result which was evidently sought; namely, facility of reference and real value to the student who has something more than mere historical interest in Blackstone.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

A DIGEST OF ENGLISH CIVIL LAW. Edited by EDWARD JENKS, M.A., B. C. L. Book 4, FAMILY LAW, by W. M. GELDART, M.A., B. C. L. Book 5, SUCCESSION, by W. S. HOLDSWORTH, D. C. L. London: BUTTERWORTH & Co. 1916. pp. liii, 1155-1291.

TREATIES, THEIR MAKING AND ENFORCEMENT. 2nd ed. By SAMUEL B. CRANDALL, Ph.D. Washington: JOHN BYRNE & Co. 1916. pp. xxxii, 663.

COMMERCIAL MORTMAIN. A Study of the Trust Problem. By JOHN R. DOS PASSOS. New York: THE BENCH & BAR Co. 1916. pp. viii, 101.

WOOD ON LIMITATIONS. By H. G. WOOD. 2 vols., 4th ed. Revised and enlarged by DEWITT C. MOORE. Albany: MATTHEW, BENDER & Co. 1916. pp. ccliii, xiii, 1765.

THE LAW AND THE PRACTICE OF MUNICIPAL HOME RULE. By HOWARD C. MCBAIN. New York: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS. 1916. pp. xviii, 724.

FEDERAL EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT. Practitioner's Manual. By JOHN A. WALGREN. Chicago: T. H. FLOOD & Co. 1916. pp. viii, 146.

YEAR BOOKS 5. EDWARD II. The Publications of the SELDEN SOCIETY. Vol. XXXI. The Year Series, Vol. XI. Edited by WILLIAM CRADDOCK BOLLAND. London: BERNARD QUARTICH. 1915. pp. xlix, 281.

THE HINDU JOINT FAMILY. Handbooks of Hindu Law, Part I. By H. D. CORNISH, B.A. London: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS. 1915. pp. xxxvii, 171.

PARTITION AND MAINTENANCE. Handbooks of Hindu Law, Part II. By H. D. CORNISH, B.A. London: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS. 1915. pp. xxxvi, 203.